

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending. Applicant requests that Claim 6 be amended to place the Application in condition for allowance or better form for appeal. Support for the amendment may be found in the Application as filed at least in FIGS. 2, 5-7, 10, and 13B. No new matter has been added. The rejections of the claims are respectfully traversed in light of the amendments and following remarks, and reconsideration is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,633,739) (hereinafter "Matsuyama") in view of Takao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,568,293) (hereinafter "Takao").

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Takao and further in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,725,975) (hereinafter "Nakamura").

Claims 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Takao and further in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,567,150).

In rejecting the claims, the Examiner writes in part in the Office Action:

Matsuyama et al. . . . do not disclose the peripheral portions of the neighboring color filter overlap each other and having a taper angle less than 40 degrees. Takao et al. do disclose a color filter (B/G/R) can be overlapped to each other with a taper angle less than 40 degrees (respect to the normal line). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the Matsuyama et al. color filter having at least a part of the peripheral portion overlapping to each other with a taper angle less than 40 degrees as shown by Takao et al. in order to reduce alignment effect (col. 2, ln 9-13).

[T]he modification to Matsuyama would result [in] a small gap of color filter therebetween (i.e. against dye diffusion)

Applicant submits that Matsuyama in view of Takao does not disclose or suggest that "the peripheral portions of the neighboring color filters overlap and contact each other and have a taper angle less than 40 degrees," as recited in amended Claim 6.

Takao discloses an overlap of the peripheral portions of adjacent color filters but does not disclose or suggest the use of a black matrix between and under the interface of

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overlapping color filters, instead disclosing that a light intercepting layer 117 is formed after the colored patterns 114, 115, 116 are formed on the glass substrate 111 (Takao, col. 19, lines 18-23). Furthermore, if a light intercepting layer is used, Takao discloses that "light intercepting layer 10 is formed in the recess [or gap] between the respective color units" (Takao, col. 4, lines 22-25, col. 5, lines 55-56, FIGS. 1, 3, 6).

Nakamura and Kim do not remedy the deficiencies of Matsuyama and Takao noted above.

In contrast, amended Claim 6 recites "sequentially forming a plurality of color filters neighboring each other on the substrate and the black matrix, each color filter having a flat central portion and a peripheral portion, the peripheral portion overlapping the black matrix . . . wherein the peripheral portions of the neighboring color filters overlap and contact each other and have a taper angle less than 40 degrees." Accordingly, because the cited references, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest all the limitations of Claim 6, Claim 6 is patentable over Matsuyama, Takao, Nakamura, and Kim, alone or in combination.

Claims 7 and 20-25 are dependent on Claim 6, and contain additional limitations that further distinguish them from the cited references. Therefore, Claims 7 and 20-25 are allowable over Matsuyama, Takao, Nakamura, and Kim, alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons provided above with respect to Claim 6.

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CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Applicant submits that all pending Claims 6-7 and 20-25 are now in condition for allowance and allowance of the Application is hereby solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is hereby requested to telephone Applicant's Attorney at (949) 752-7040.

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